



Greetings from the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University. Thank you for signing up to receive information from the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid.

The emails we send are meant to provide you with information about the opportunities available to SIPA students and details related to the process of applying for admission and financial aid.

### **Application for Spring 2008 and Fall 2008**

We are happy to announce that the application season for Spring 2008 and Fall 2008 is now open. You can get started by visiting our online application site. We have upgraded our application site this year and there are few important things we would like to share about the process.

First, applicants can now track the receipt of application documents online. This is done via the application site. In order for the tracking process to begin, an application and the application fee must be submitted. We highly encourage you to submit the application and fee as soon as possible so the tracking process can begin. Please do note that the status tracking feature will not be viewable on the site until August 22nd but do not let this hinder you from starting or submitting your application.

Second, all of the required admission documents except for transcripts and test scores can be submitted online. You may upload your personal statement, C.V./Résumé, and even those who write your letters of recommendation may submit them online via our site.

The application deadline for Spring 2008 is October 1st, 2007. The application deadline for Fall 2008 is January 4th, 2008. Please note that all of the required documents must be in our office by the deadline for us to guarantee that your application will be reviewed. If materials are received after the application deadline review is subject to the discretion of the Admissions Committee.

You can access the online application via the following link:

<https://app.applyyourself.com/?id=COL-spa>

### **Fall Travel**

Each fall representatives of SIPA visit select locations to meet with those who are interested in our programs. The locations most often are college campuses and SIPA also participates in fairs featuring representatives from graduate school programs. We have a tentative travel schedule in place. Room locations and specific times are still pending for several events but you may view the travel schedule by visiting the following link:

[http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources\\_services/admissions/recruitment\\_cal.pdf](http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/admissions/recruitment_cal.pdf)

The events will be finalized in the coming weeks and an update will be available in the next email in this series.

### **Faculty News**

It is not uncommon for our faculty to show up in the news. Most of our faculty members have robust experience outside the world of teaching. One example is Esther Fuchs. Professor Fuchs has an impressive academic pedigree with a PhD from the University of Chicago, but also has an impressive professional track record. For a period of time she served as Special Advisor to the Mayor for Governance and Strategic Planning in the administration of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg of the City of New York.

One recent issue that has garnered a great deal of attention in New York City is a congestion pricing plan. Such plans have been successful in other large cities and Mayor Bloomberg attempted to pass a plan recently. Professor Fuchs was recently interviewed about the plan on National Public Radio. You may hear the interview by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.wnyc.org/shows/bl/episodes/2007/07/16/segments/82184#segment82184/>

### **Career Prospects**

Events and trends in the world continue to point to both MIA and MPA degrees as highly relevant preparation for issues that will play critical roles in the future of global affairs. Globalization, migration, security, trade, energy, and global warming are just a few of the issues in the news on a daily basis. SIPA students are trained to deal with these and other issues that are vital for a stable and peaceful future for all mankind.

Recently the organization Partnership for Public Service released a report entitled, "Where the Jobs Are: Mission Critical Opportunities for America." The report states that over the next two years, federal agencies will hire close to 193,000 new workers for "mission critical" jobs. In addition, a recent report released by the Council for Excellence in Government stated that in 2010, more than 40% of all Federal Employees will be eligible for retirement. This means a robust job market for those interested in working for the U.S. federal government.

To view the report released by Partnership for Public Service, visit this link:

<http://www.ourpublicservice.org/OPS/publications/viewcontentdetails.php?id=118>

To view the report released by the Council for Excellence in Government, visit this link:

[http://www.excelgov.org/UserFiles/File/Within%20Reach%20But%20Out%20of%20Synch\\_5-21%20Updates\\_.pdf](http://www.excelgov.org/UserFiles/File/Within%20Reach%20But%20Out%20of%20Synch_5-21%20Updates_.pdf)

### **Office Information**

Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have questions. In addition, if you plan to visit New York City you are welcome to visit campus and attend an information session. Information sessions are typically scheduled for each Monday at 6:00 PM and each Friday at Noon. We do request that you contact us at least one week prior to your arrival so we can make the proper arrangements. Please also note that during certain times of the year, information sessions may be cancelled.

Thank you again and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

The Staff of the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid

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